

Message Text

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67

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-01 TRSE-00 XMB-04 OPIC-06

CIEP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 /097 W
----- 020244

R 121913Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9117

INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

UNCLAS BOGOTA 5395

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: ECON, CO

SUBJ: ANDEAN PACT: COLOMBIAN ATTITUDE

REF: LIMA 4726

1. FOREIGN MINISTER LIEVANO IS ON FRONT PAGES OF TODAY'S PRESS WITH STATEMENT THAT COLOMBIA "WILL NOT PERMIT ITSELF TO BE PRESSURED" INTO SECTORAL AGREEMENTS. RATHER GOC WILL CAREFULLY CONSIDER EACH STEP BEFORE MAKING DECISIONS ON SECTORAL PROGRAMS, WHICH ONCE AGREED UPON ARE IRREVERSIBLE. COLOMBIA, HE SAID, HAS BEEN LEADER AND DEFENDER OF ANDEAN PACT WITHOUT SEEKING ANY PRIVILEGES.

2. FOREIGN MINISTER MADE HIS REMARKS WHILE OPENING ANNUAL METALURGICAL INDUSTRY CONVENTION. INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT TOOK ADVANTAGE OF OCCASION TO SUGGEST THAT ANDEAN PACT IS TOO RIGID AND ITS BASES
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SHOULD BE RECONSIDER IN LIGHT OF INTERNATIONAL

ECONOMIC CHANGES SINCE ITS INCEPTION, PARTICULARLY IN
ENERGY. INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION RELEASE ALSO
CRITICIZES LACK OF IMPLEMENTATION OF METAL WORKING SECTORAL
PROGRAM, THE ONLY SECTORAL AGREEMENT TO DATE.

3. LEAD STORY IN COUNTRY'S LEADING NEWSPAPER,
EL TIEMPO, ASSERTS THAT COLOMBIA ALONE AMONG THE SIX
IS STEADFAST IN SUPPORT OF DECISION 24. EVEN SO, ARTICLE
SAYS, SUGGESTED CHANGES IN FOREIGN INVESTMENT CODE HAVE
CREATED NEW CLIMATE OF UNCERTAINTY OVER FUTURE OF ANDEAN
PACT. REPORTEDLY COMMISSION PRESIDENT GUTIERREZ SAID IN
SANTIAGO EARLY THIS WEEK THAT DECISION 24 NEEDS TO BE
REFORMED, AND ANDEAN CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE MEETING ALSO
IN SANTIAGO PROPOSED SEVERAL CHANGES IN THE CODE.
GUTIERREZ IS DUE IN BOGOTA FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH GOC,
ACCORDING TO REPORT, BUT THERE IS NO MENTION OF
POSSIBLE POSTPONEMENT OF JUNE 23 MEETING.
WHITE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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TAGS: ECON, CO, ANDEAN PACT
To: STATE
Type: TE
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